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COB-M-73-058

12 FEB 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: OC Equipment Board Members

SUBJECT : Minutes of the Equipment Board Meeting of
5 February 1973

Meeting No. 1-73 of the Office of Communications Equip-
ment Board was held on 6 February 1973. Those present were:

Members: Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.

Also Present:

ITEM I

Mr. [] prefaced his presentation on the Strategic Reserve Inventory with the comment that our Logs people have already been instructed to discontinue Allocation 22 (Strategic Inventory) at our []. However, there still exists a need for the capability to move a Base Station into an area to commence operations on short notice. Inasmuch as we will soon be down to four overseas Base Stations, our need for an Instant Base Station is greater than ever. Mr. [] passed two Hand-outs around (See attachments 1 and 2) entitled "Twelve Circuit Base Station Cost Estimate" and "8-PAC Upgrading". After reviewing the details of both papers, he recommended the best course of action would be to take the two existing 8-PAC vans and make one 12-PAC. This would also leave one spare van for use as a "shop van". This could be done using \$225 to \$250K in contract funds to fabricate the new 12-PAC. He pointed out that neither the 8-PAC nor the 12-PAC would give the sophisticated, modern facility as the station outlined in the "Twelve Circuit Base Station" proposal. However, the van concept would provide mobility and flexibility to move into an area quickly.

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Mr. [] observed that in recent years we had not used a 2-PAC, 6-PAC, 8-PAC, etc., except for the [] "experiment" and asked for opinions as to whether a real need for one exists. Much discussion about contingency planning followed; philosophy was offered by all members. It was concluded that we do need to continue "the insurance policy" by having a transportable Base Station in stock. It was also agreed that the best mechanism for having an approved contingency station which would be routinely upgraded and modernized each fiscal year would be to have it included and approved as a recurring item in OC's program.

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The Chairman then called for a vote on the SCD proposal. The proposal, as stated by Mr. [] is:

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Continue with the 8-PAC/12-PAC philosophy to meet Base Station Back-Up requirements rather than depend on the minimum stock level approach. Then SCD would program as follows:

FY-73 - Re-program \$25K to \$30K of SCD's allotment to contract for rehabilitation of existing Vans of one 8-PAC.

FY-74 - Re-program new equipment for a 12-PAC, using the existing two 8-PAC's and [] equipment and about \$225K in contractual funds.

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FY-75 - Program for an Automated Relay System (ARS) as a Back-up Base Station.

FY-76 - Program for a SKYLINK terminal.

There were no opposing votes. The recommendation was accepted.

ITEM II

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Mr. [] gave a brief review of the Volatile Memory Crypto Generator Concept and turned the floor over to Mr. John [] for a status report. Mr. [] explained the volatile memory consists of a Mini-computer which generates key-text. The key is changed daily (automatically) and the device cannot be made to go back to yesterday's key to recover traffic sent earlier. This technique effectively solves the problem of

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providing separate, daily changing key material. Mr. [] explained that the key generator could handle up to and including Category A, classified Staff traffic. It can also produce less complicated systems to be used by foreign agents.

Mr. [] reported that the program is running behind schedule due to the non-availability of a 256 bit CMOS shift-register which had formerly been commercially available. The company simply quit making them in favor of a more sophisticated Random Access Memory. The design of his key generator has been changed to use the random access memory vice the shift register and the program is again moving. He hopes to have a prototype soon.

Mr. [] asked if there was any conflict or competition between the CY-2, CY-3 Crypto devices being produced by CCD and the Volatile Memory Key Generator. Mr. [] replied that, the VMKG is a slow-speed device which will not handle secure voice and the size of the VMKG will be much larger than the CY-2. Therefore, there is no conflict between the devices.

Mr. [REDACTED]

Mr. [] called the group's attention to the recent CCD memorandum to Equipment Board Members (CCD-M-73-031). The memo notified Equipment Board Members of the decision not to proceed with the procurement of CU-35 and CV-35 equipment for the PD-2 update. Mr. [] requested that it be made a matter of record, that in addition to the reasons specified in the memo, the increased cost of the equipment played an important part in the decision to cancel procurement of the CU/CV units.

The Covert Communications Division will have an item for the next Equipment Board Meeting. The agenda item will be a review of the various CCD Coder-Keyers . . . in-use, ready for production and in the design stages.

Mr.

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Mr. []

Mr. [] gave a progress report on the TEST EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP. He passed out a Draft Copy of the Standard Operating Procedures (see Attachment 3) worked up by the TEWG and requested Equipment Board Members to read and comment on the paper. There was general agreement that the paper presented a good approach toward the establishment of this much needed group.

Mr. []

Mr. [] adjourned the meeting with the notification that the next meeting would be on 6 March 1973.

Chairman, OC Equipment Board

APPROVED: []

Director of Communications

Attachments:

- 1
- 2
- 3

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